

PEQUOT TRAILS

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY IN THE SPRING, SUMMER, FALL AND WINTER BY THE PEQUOT-SEPOS WILDLIFE SANCTUARY, INC., MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

Volume VI

Summer of 1954

Number two

Disney Films to Be Featured At Annual Meeting

Olympic Elk and **Water Birds**, two of Walt Disney's outstanding nature films will be featured at the annual meeting on July 11. These films combine the best photographic endeavors of our country's leading wildlife photographers. Mr. Disney has added a fine musical background and an authentic and interesting commentary—the kind that only Disney can provide.

This may be your last opportunity to see these films. If you are fortunate enough to have seen them, or any of this series, you know they are the type of films you would want to see over and over. This special showing is made possible at considerable expense to the Sanctuary and through special lease from RKO studios.

New London Students Win Poster Contest

Two New London students won top honors in the Sanctuary's third annual conservation poster contest. Miss Signe M. Nelson of New London High School won first prize in the high school division and Miss Sally Poblete of Bulkeley Junior High won first prize in the grade school division. Miss Nelson was awarded a first prize of a \$25 U. S. Savings Bond and Miss Poblete a first prize of \$10 cash.

Second place awards went to Richard Jerome of New London High School and Robert Tringe of Elizabeth Street School in Norwich. They won cash prizes of \$10 and \$5, respectively. Honorable mentions in the high school division included Ronald Koley, Elaine Kohl, J. Willetts, and John E. Shea, all of New London High School and James A. Ward of Fitch High School. Honorable mentions in the grade school division were won by Thomas Ham and Herbert Lewis of the Elizabeth Street School in Norwich, Mary Lou Riley, Bishop Street School, Norwich, Richard Brown of the Mystic Academy, and Leo Nolan of Broadway School, Mystic.

All winners were presented with a special citation in addition to their cash awards. There were more than 200 posters entered in the contest.

Annual Meeting to Be Sun., July 11

Purple Martins and Wood Ducks Nesting at Sanctuary

The first nesting records for purple martins and wood ducks at the Sanctuary were recorded this spring. Of the three wood duck boxes erected during the winter, two were occupied by wood ducks and the other by starlings. However, as many as six male wood ducks were observed feeding around our new pond at one time. More wood duck boxes will be built and put up in appropriate places this coming winter.

Our martin box has been in place for three seasons. It has finally attracted at least three pair of nesting purple martins. This should be the beginning of a full colony in a year or two. Let's hope so!

On June 2 a survey was made of the other nesting boxes about the Sanctuary. Bluebirds were found to be occupying three houses while tree swallows had taken possession of eight. There were wrens in three, starlings in one, English sparrows in one, and one remained empty.

FLASH! On June 13, Russell Waldo flushed a wood duck from box No. 3—the one announced above as having been used by starlings. The wood ducks took over after the starlings left. This gives us an average of three for three!

Films and Supper to Be Special Features

The ninth annual meeting of the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary will be held at the Sanctuary on Sunday evening, July 11. We are again endeavoring to make this a fast-moving streamlined affair that will appeal to all members. There will be a short business meeting, refreshments, and two outstanding films.

The business meeting will start at 5:30 at which time we will elect new trustees to our Board. There will be brief reports by committee chairmen and our curator. Following this meeting, which should take less than one hour, you will be given time to enjoy your own picnic supper. We will supply you with hot and cold drinks and dessert—you supply the rest.

Immediately following the supper, at approximately 7:30, we will show you two excellent nature films—Walt Disney's **Olympic Elk** and **Water Birds**. We know you will enjoy the entire evening's program. Plan to attend the business meeting and to spend the evening with us. Please fill out the enclosed postcard and mail it so it reaches us by Wednesday, July 7. This will help us in our planning.

**THIS IS YOUR OFFICIAL NOTICE.
PLAN TO ATTEND NOW.**

Schedule of Events

NINTH ANNUAL MEETING

Where?	Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Mystic, Conn.
When?	Sunday evening, July 11 — Rain or shine.
What Time?	Business meeting at 5:30 p.m. Followed by picnic supper and entertainment.
About the Supper!	Members bring their own. The Sanctuary will supply the dessert, coffee, and cold drinks.
About the Program!	7:30 p.m. Walt Disney's Olympic Elk and Water Birds .
What Must I Do?	Plan now to attend. Fill in the enclosed postcard and mail so it reaches us by Wednesday, July 7.

P-R Funds Aid States' Habitat Restoration Programs

Resident game species are not being slighted by the state game departments in the many habitat restoration programs that are being carried out under the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937. Generally called the Pittman-Robertson Act for its sponsors in the Congress, this legislation earmarks the receipts from an 11 per cent excise tax on sporting arms and ammunition for wildlife restoration purposes in the states. The share each state receives is determined on the basis of its area and the number of hunting licenses actually sold. Any free licenses a State may grant to its citizens, reduce its share of P-R funds, according to the Wildlife Management Institute.

Environmental improvements for quail, pheasants, and rabbits were made by 36 states and Hawaii on privately owned land this past year. In cooperation with landowners, soil conservation districts, 4-H clubs, and other conservation groups, the state game departments distributed more than 70,000,000 trees and shrubs. The production of wildlife foods was increased by the distribution of more than 132 tons of lespedeza, partridges, canarygrass, and other seeds. South Carolina and North Carolina each provided more than 5,000,000 bicolor lespedeza plants. Enough multiflora rose was planted to form a hedge 4,450 miles long, and other trees and shrubs that also provide food and cover for wildlife were used to round out the planting programs.

Programs were conducted for upland game on lands owned or controlled by 39 states during the past year. A variety of improvements also were made on big game rangelands in 11 western states. Evaluation of the beneficial effects of these projects were made by several of the states.

Figures showing the magnitude of the restoration programs that were conducted for resident game species by the states under the Pittman-Robertson act do not tell the whole story. It should be realized that the usefulness of these improvement projects to wildlife hinges largely upon their quality. Tons of seeds, vast acreages, and thousands of trees in themselves would mean little if the proper sites and conditions were not determined for each habitat improvement program.

For fun, food, and fellowship, be sure to attend our annual meeting. We need you at the business meeting to help negotiate the annual business of our organization. We know you will enjoy the program, too, so plan to attend now! See announcements elsewhere in this bulletin.

Proposed Revision of By-Laws

Your Board of Trustees believe that a few changes in the existing By-Laws would make it possible to conduct the business and activities of the Sanctuary more efficiently. In view of this, and in accordance with the existing By-Laws, notice is hereby given that the following revisions will be presented for adoption at the annual meeting on July 11.

AS NOW IN EFFECT

Article I Name and Object

The name of this Association shall be the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., and its purpose shall be to encourage the study and love of Nature by acquiring, developing and maintaining a bird and wildlife sanctuary and a museum and library on the property of the George and Ann Borodell Denison Society, Inc., near Mystic, in Stonington Township, Connecticut; by holding classes, exhibits, lectures; issuing publications, and by any other means approved by the Trustees.

Article III Meetings

1. The Annual Meeting shall be held on the second Monday in July in Stonington Township at such time and place as the Trustees may designate.

Article V Board of Trustees

1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of fifteen members which shall be elected in the following manner: at the first meeting twenty candidates shall be regularly nominated and seconded by the members present, who shall then vote for fifteen; the three candidates receiving the greatest number of votes to serve for five years, the three receiving the next greatest number of votes to serve for four years, and in this manner till fifteen are named, the last three to serve for one year. Thereafter, a Nominating Committee of five, appointed by the Trustees, shall present to each annual meeting three candidates for election to the board to serve five years. After expiration of his term of office no elected trustee shall be eligible for re-election until one year shall have elapsed.

Article VI Meetings of the Trustees

2. Regular quarterly meetings of the Board shall be held in Stonington Township on the second Monday in October, January, and April at such time and place as the President shall designate.

4. At all meetings of the Board, six members shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII Officers and Committees

1. At its annual meeting the Board of Trustees shall elect from among its members the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall perform the duties usual and customary to these offices.

PROPOSED REVISIONS

Article I Name and Object

The name of this Association shall be the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary, Inc., and its purpose shall be to encourage the study and love of Nature, **and to promote conservation in all its phases**, by acquiring . . . etc.

Article III Meetings

1. The Annual Meeting shall be held **in the month of July** in Stonington Township at such time and place as the Trustees may designate.

Article V Board of Trustees

1. The Board of Trustees shall consist of **twenty members, four new members to be elected each July, at the Association's annual meeting, to serve for a period of five years.** A Nominating Committee of five members, appointed by the Trustees, shall present to each annual meeting **four** candidates for election. After expiration of his term of office no elected trustee shall be eligible for re-election until one year shall have elapsed.

Article VI Meetings of the Trustees

2. **In addition to the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees, at least three other meetings of the Board shall be held during the year at such time and place as the president shall designate.**

4. At all meetings of the Board, seven members shall constitute a quorum.

Article VII Officers and Committees

1. At its annual meeting the Board of Trustees shall elect from among its members the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall perform the duties usual and customary to these offices. **Additional officers may be elected by the Board of Trustees as necessary for the operation of the Association.**

Spring Planting Totals

Each spring and fall we endeavor to do some planting of trees and shrubs that will make the Sanctuary more attractive to wildlife. Although our budget has yet to provide a definite sum for this purpose, we did manage to purchase a few evergreen seedlings from the State this year. We were also fortunate in having the U.S. Soil Conservation Service give us a variety of seedlings last fall when they abandoned their nursery program. Dividends of flowering dogwood, mountain laurel, and shadbush were obtained through our membership in the Connecticut Arboretum.

A small nursery was started at the Sanctuary this spring for the purpose of giving some of these seedlings a chance to mature more before final planting. It is hoped, too, that some seedlings may eventually be shared with our members for conservation plantings.

From the above sources our plantings totals for this spring were:

In the Pond Area

- 215 Bayberry
- 171 Shrub Lespedisa
- 4 Shadbush

In Nursery

- 122 Amur River Privet
- 194 Toringo Crabapple
- 251 Eleagnus
- 47 Larch
- 54 Hemlock
- 58 Norway Spruce
- 64 White Spruce
- 52 White Pine
- 13 Flowering Dogwood
- 5 Mountain Laurel
- 2 Shadbush
- 16 Bayberry
- 50 White Pine
- 9 Flowering Dogwood
- 167 Larch

Open House Starts

Visiting Schedule

A special open house program on Sunday afternoon, May 16, officially opened the Sanctuary for the current season. During the afternoon, approximately 200 members and visitors toured the trailside museum and trails.

Since the above opening, many individuals and groups have visited the Sanctuary. The visiting groups include: The Spring Glen Garden Club of Hamden, the Lebanon Cub Pack, a Cub Pack from Guilford, the Nature Group from Stonington Community Center, Girl Scouts from Norwich and New London, and school classes from Noank and Waterford. Fifteen members were present for the wildflower field trip on June 13.

Additional youth and adult groups are scheduled for future visits.

Next Season's Screen Tours to Be Held At Palmer Aud., Connecticut College

Screen Tour Schedule 1954 - 1955

We are happy to be able to announce our 1954-55 Screen Tour Schedule at this early date. All dates are final and all programs will be held at Palmer Auditorium, Connecticut College, New London. Complete details will be mailed to you at a later date. Do not order tickets from his announcement.

Sunday, November 21, 3:00 p.m.

Fran William Hall
"South to Siesta Land"

Sunday, January 17, 8:00 p.m.

Tom and Arlene Hadley
"Into the Northwoods"

Sunday, February 13, 3:00 p.m.

George Regensberg
"Little Known New Jersey"

Sunday, March 6, 3:00 p.m.

Alfred M. Bailey
"Cajun Country"

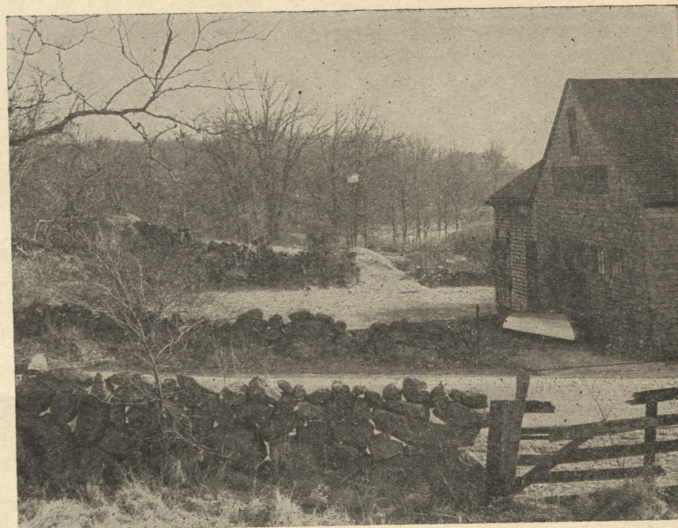
Wednesday, April 13, 8:00 p.m.

G. Harrison Orians
"Great Smoky Skyland"

Connecticut Arboretum To Be Co-sponsors

The 1954-55 Audubon Screen program will be held in Palmer Auditorium at Connecticut College. They will be co-sponsored by the Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary and the Connecticut Arboretum. We feel sure that members and supporting friends of both organizations will welcome this arrangement. Palmer Auditorium will provide excellent facilities and atmosphere for these fine programs. The parking problem will be much simplified with the large parking lot adjacent to the auditorium.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find an announcement of the 1954-55 Screen Tour Schedule. However, reservations and tickets for these programs are not available at this time. Members of both organizations will be given early opportunity to secure season tickets just as soon as ticket prices, printing, and similar preliminary arrangements have been made. In the meantime, why not reserve these dates? These programs will certainly be ones you won't want to miss.



View showing
trailside museum
and entrance
to trails.

A Very Special Thank You

We want to extend a very special "thank you" to all our members who so generously supported our recent appeal for additional funds to see us through the current fiscal year. The response was most gratifying, particularly the number of members who supported us on this occasion. Such a response assures us that our program and activities are looked upon as an essential part of our community life.

Whether your contribution was large or small, we want to thank you personally for it. Collectively, the results of this appeal have made it possible for us to conclude another fiscal year on the black side of the ledger. Again, thanks to each and every member who has so willingly expressed his confidence in us and our program.

The Finance Committee

Special Drive Boosts Membership to More Than 600

Under the leadership of Mrs. George Burgess and Mrs. H. P. Gongaware this spring's membership drive netted a total of 63 new members to put the Sanctuary's membership over the 600 mark for the first time. Assisting Mrs. Burgess and Mrs. Gongaware as chairmen in the various towns were: Mrs. Robert T. Lathrop, Mrs. Maynard Petteon, and Mrs. A. A. Lubchansky for New London; Mrs. Winifred Passmore in Storrs; Mrs. Frank J. Kohl, Noank; Miss Emily Wilcox and Mrs. Bernice Manken, Norwich; Mrs. Henry A. Scheel and Mrs. David Kellems, Mystic; Mrs. Carlton B. Morse, Groton; Mrs. Jacque Wimpfheimer and Mrs. Cottrell Chandler, Stonington; Mrs. George Grant MacCurdy, Old Lyme; Mrs. Frank Sullivan, Westerly; Mrs. Ralph Putnam, Niantic, and Mrs. Whitney S. Porter, Chester.

New members enrolled during this drive include:

Capt. R. B. Putnam, Niantic.
 Mrs. R. B. Putnam, Niantic.
 Mrs. Royce L. Gross, Gales Ferry.
 Mrs. Melvin Merken, Old Lyme.
 North Stonington Garden Club, North Stonington.
 Mrs. Ralph H. Keeler, New London.
 Mr. R. B. Chappell, New London.
 Mrs. William J. Jahoda, Lebanon.
 Mr. E. L. Jette, Mystic.
 Mrs. Gertrude H. Law, Mystic.
 Miss Ruth Thomas, New London.
 Mrs. Sidney B. Alling, New London.
 Sheffield Tube Corporation, New London.
 Miller Ford Co., Stonington.
 Mrs. Garrett Price, Mystic.
 Mrs. David M. Johnstone, Stonington.
 Mrs. Reginald E. Smith, New London.
 Mr. Ernest F. Post, Mystic.
 Mrs. Steven M. Castle, Stonington.
 Mrs. Evelyn B. Ficke, New London.
 Mrs. Raymond J. Perry, Mystic.
 Mr. Arthur C. Croft, New London.
 Dr. R. N. Taylor, New London.
 Miss Helen I. Fraser, New London.
 Mr. Ralph Matteson, New London.
 Mrs. Ralph Matteson, New London.
 Mrs. Lawrence A. Vars, Jr., Mystic.
 Dr. Lawrence B. Smith, New London.
 Mrs. Lawrence B. Smith, New London.
 Miss Florence Weir, Mystic.
 Miss Maud Weir, Mystic.
 Miss Rosemary Park, New London.
 Mrs. Lyman H. Reynolds, Stonington.
 Mr. Albert C. Lord, Englewood, N. J.
 Mrs. F. M. Page, Mystic.
 Mr. Fred R. Zeller, Stonington.
 Mrs. Fred R. Zeller, Stonington.
 Faith Trumbull Chapter, D.A.R., Inc., Norwich.
 Mrs. Thomas Horsefield, Moodus.
 Mrs. William Berner, Moodus.

Typical Letter Expresses Value of Program

The following letter is representative of the many we receive in appreciation and recognition of our Sanctuary's program. We believe our members would like to know that the program they support is so effective and so warmly received.

June 16, 1954

Dear Mr. McElroy:

This is to thank you most sincerely for the interesting and profitable trip we made to Pequot-sepos Wildlife Sanctuary. You made every step of the trail so fascinating — the children remembered every word you said and everything you showed us. It was just like dropping a pebble in water — the after-effects of the trip. We started a nature corner — made bird feeders, a bird house, brought in old bird nests and labeled them, a stuffed owl, cocoons, a wasp's nest, etc.

We drew pictures and wrote stories of every step of the trail. In the outdoor world they have begun to notice birds, leaves, etc.

I should like to take out an annual membership. When does the year begin?

Hope we can come again. Even the parents enjoyed it. You might be interested to know I have signed up for a week in August at the Audubon Camp in Greenwich.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Florence McMahon
 Teacher, Waterford Public Schools

Mrs. Whitney S. Porter, Chester.
 Mrs. Knut Carston, East Haddam.
 Mr. William N. Squadrito, Mystic.
 Mrs. William N. Squadrito, Mystic.
 Dr. Bradford B. Crandall, Mystic.
 Mrs. Bradford B. Crandall, Mystic.
 Mrs. Donald B. Smith, Mystic.
 Mrs. B. H. Davis, Mystic.
 Bird Group, Storrs Women's Club, Storrs.
 Mrs. Martha M. Young, New London.
 Miss Laura H. Greene, New London.
 Mr. Oliver Cooper, New London.
 Mr. Charles Moore, Groton.
 Dr. William Jahoda, Lebanon.
 Mrs. John L. Wallis, New York.
 Col. George F. Nichols, New London.
 Mr. Charles Weiss, Norwich.
 Mrs. Ben F. Deaton, New London.
 Mrs. John Archer, New London.
 Mrs. Wilfred A. Park, New London.
 Mrs. Harold P. Reno, Norwichtown.
 Mr. Mark T. Kelley, Norwich.

A Statement of Purpose: We want this publication to be of the utmost service to you — to keep you informed concerning activities at the Sanctuary and in your community; to invite your participation in these activities; and to provide you with general articles of education and inspiration regarding conservation subjects. Won't you drop us a line and tell us what you would like to see published? We would appreciate it.

Sportsmanship Made Part Of Conservation Course

It might look like hookey, but it isn't. At The School of The Ozarks, a group of youngsters sighting guns or learning to manipulate casting rods is a regular campus scene. This activity is a part of the school's fully accredited course in the conservation of natural resources. So popular has conservation become with the boys and girls that it now is a required subject, the Wildlife Management Institute reports.

Much of the success of the course is given to its instructor, A. R. Mottesheard, state conservationist for the Missouri Conservation Commission. For many years Mottesheard has felt that instruction in sportsmanship and the proper handling of firearms and fishing gear should be a part of the conservation course. Fishing equipment, ammunition, and several single-barrelled shotguns and .22 caliber rifles were solicited through the Missouri Conservation Commission. A student shoots one box each of shotgun and rifle ammunition under supervision. Fishing ethics are reviewed in class and the youngsters become acquainted with the fishing gear during their spare time. The equipment gets a rugged workout on the school pond and on the White River that flows beside the campus.

Seasonal Dwelling to Be Gift to Wimpfheimers

In appreciation of the recent private benefit given for the Sanctuary by Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wimpfheimer, the Board of Trustees have had plans drawn for a multiple, summer dwelling to be constructed on the Wimpfheimer property.

The building will house sixteen families during the summer months, each family unit representing a gift of one member of the sixteen Trustees comprising the 1953-54 Board.

According to Architect and General Contractor Thomas McElroy, the building will be of frame clapboard construction with fire-proof roof, modern in design and constructed of finest materials. It is hoped that it will bring handsome compensation and attractive neighbors to the Wimpfheimers during the season.

There is only one string attached to this gift — and if the reader hasn't guessed it by now — it is that all tenants of this multiple dwelling must carry the surname of "Martin."